Safety of oil and gas sites

554. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the aftermath of fire in Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) depot at Jaipur in Rajasthan Government has reviewed the safety of oil and gas sites both in private and public sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what safety measures are in place in case of offshore oil installations both in public and private sector;

(d) whether there is periodic review of safety mechanism in both sectors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) In order to take preventive steps so that such incidents do not occur in future, the Ministry had convened a meeting on 3.11.2009, to review the safety and security at oil & gas installations in the country, which was attended by the Chief Executive Officers of all public and major private oil companies having installations in the country. It was decided that the following actions will be taken:

1. All companies shall take measures to promote safety consciousness and training on safety requirement at all levels. The message of zero tolerance in matters of safety has to be conveyed to all concerned.

2. All oil and gas installations and transportation systems in the country will carry out self safety audit conforming to statutory norms and risk assessment, including Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) standards by 31.12.2009. Oil companies will submit the reports to OISD which in turn will submit a consolidated report to MOPNG.

3. The decision taken in the 27th Meeting of safety Council held on 18th September 2009 in MOPNG regarding empowerment of OISD with statutory status would be expedited. OISD will be further strengthened with additional manpower from oil companies.

4. The Safety Council be expanded to include private sector refineries and offshore & other installations.

5. All oil and gas companies in the country must update their standard operating procedures (SOPs) for operations and maintenance practices for all countrywide installations / setups under due technical supervision and attention, availing the benefit of best practices in the country and abroad. A strict implementation of such Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) will be ensured. All oil and gas companies will submit reports on SOPs and its due implementation to OISD by 31.12.2009.

6. All oil and gas installations will have their safety audit done on quarterly basis. All major as well as minor incidents in any such installations/setups in the country including that of private companies will be reported to OISD.

(c) Offshore installations are of two types- production platform and drilling rigs. The following safety measures are in place on the offshore installations:

1. Process safety
2. Emergency shutdown systems
3. Well Control system
4. Fire and gas detection system
5. Fire suppression system
6. Emergency response system
7. Helicopter operations
8. Vessel movement

After notification of the Petroleum and Natural Gas (Safety in Offshore Operations) Rules, 2008, in June, 2008, the operators are required to meet the requirements of these rules which is further enhancing their safety levels.

(d) and (e) OISD has been entrusted with the job of reviewing periodically the safety mechanism in oil sector by way of:

Development/Revision of standards

for Fire Fighting Facilities Development of Disaster Management, Layout etc.

- Institutionalized Safety audits
- Pre- Commissioning Audit
- External Safety Audit
- Surprise Safety Audit
- Incident Investigations, Collation and analysis
- Capacity building *i.e.* Training
- Safety Performance Evaluation
- Tie up / association with national / international bodies
- Dissemination of Information

Fire in IOC depot near Jaipur

555. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA:

SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss suffered by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) due to massive fire that brokeout and destroyed their depot near Jaipur;